

# Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge

## Youth Turkey Hunt

Welcome to Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge. The United States Fish and Wildlife Service established the refuge in 1958 primarily for nesting, resting, staging and feeding waterfowl. Public hunting is a priority public use and can provide a quality recreational experience when pursued responsibly. We allow hunting of turkey in accordance with State laws and the following refuge specific regulations.

We allow turkey hunting during the spring season only.

### Youth Hunt

We hold a youth hunt on the first Sunday in May for junior hunters between 12-17 years of age. The program is free but space is limited to 25 participants.

Participants must pre-register by completing a **Big Game Hunt Application** which can be obtained in person or by mail from the refuge office or from our website at <http://www.fws.gov/northeast/iroquois/hunting>. On the form, complete items 1, 2, and 3. In item 5 select or write in "Turkey (Spring)". In item 8 select or write in "Youth Hunt". Complete Item 8a. At item 9 sign on the Hunter Signature line. A parent or guardian must also sign on the Guardian Signature line. Please, leave other items blank. The application must be received by the deadline which will be announced in a news release and on the refuge website. Those selected must attend an orientation program on the Saturday before the first Sunday in May from 2 - 4 pm.

The orientation will review hunter safety, turkey calling, equipment, ethics and sportsmanship. After the orientation we will issue a **Big Game Hunt Permit** and **Big Game Harvest Report** to all participants.

All junior hunters must be accompanied by an adult both at the orientation and during the hunt. Adult guides must have a valid New York State Hunting license but may not hunt.

### No Hunting Zones/Closed Area

No Hunting Zones include but are not limited to: the immediate area around the refuge office; around refuge residences; the vicinity of the Iroquois Job Corps Center; Swallow Hollow, Kanyoo and Onondaga Nature Trails; and safety zones around private residences adjacent to the refuge. In addition the main dike in Mohawk Pool and County Line Dike are closed to turkey hunting to protect nesting bald eagles. Permission must be obtained from refuge personnel to enter a "No Hunting Zone" or "Closed Area" for the purpose of tracking and/or retrieving legally taken game animals.

We allow portable blinds and decoys, but you must remove all equipment at the conclusion of the hunt day.



### Vehicles

Stay on public roads. Off road travel, ATV's and snowmobiles are not allowed. Please, do not block gates or roads.



### Boats

Canoes, kayaks or other boats without motors are permitted on Oak Orchard Creek only, from Knowlesville Road to Route 63. You may launch boats from Route 63, Sour Springs Road and Knowlesville Road. As you pass through wooded swamp expect obstructions and variable water levels.

### Prohibited Activities

The distribution of bait, or hunting over a baited area.

Using illuminating devices, including automobile headlights, for the purpose of spotlighting game species.

Camping, overnight parking, open fires and littering.

Use or possession of alcoholic beverages while hunting.

Weapons may not be discharged within, into or across a "No Hunting Zone" or "Closed Area"; or from, on or across any refuge road or designated foot trail. Hunting from within 500 feet of any residence or refuge building is prohibited.

Hunters may not possess axes, hatchets, saws, nails, tacks, paint or flagging for the marking of trees and shrubs.

**Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge**  
1101 Casey Road  
Basom, NY 14013-9730  
(585) 948-5445  
[Iroquois@fws.gov](mailto:Iroquois@fws.gov)

**New York Relay Center**  
1 800/662 1220 TDD  
1 800/421 1220 voice

**U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service**  
<http://www.fws.gov>

October 2009



# Iroquois

## National Wildlife Refuge

### Hunt Map

